

[12 MARCH, 2001] RAJYA SABHA

(c) what steps Government have taken for successful implementation of the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All State Governments/Union Territory Administrations are regularly requested to monitor the utilization of funds on monthly and quarterly basis. Regular review and monitoring meetings are undertaken at high level. The Department has nominated Area Officers for different States/UTs for regular reviews.

Some of the major initiatives taken by the Department to increase the effectiveness and impact of the programme in the last two years include: (i) The freeze on expansion imposed in May, 1997 has been lifted; (ii) The monitoring mechanism has been replaced with consolidated State reports providing more focused information to facilitate feed back; (iii) The financial norms under the Scheme have been revised upwards to strengthen the Scheme. The State Governments have been impressed upon to provide adequate budget provision for supplementary nutrition. The nutrition component of Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana has also been included to increase nutritional coverage of supplementary feeding; (iv) The procurement of medicine kits have been decentralized, provision of pre-school kit introduced; and (v) The decentralized training programme for ICDS functionaries named UDISHA has been launched.

Mismanagement in mid-day meal scheme in U.P.

1562. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the wheat meant for distribution to school children under the mid-day meal scheme launched in 1995, is being usurped by Lucknow District fair price shopkeepers, in connivance with school principals and shiksha adhikaries;

- (b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that six trucks of wheat, sent to Hardoi under mid-day meal scheme for distribution to school children, are still untraced;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) what steps have been taken by Government to run the scheme successfully?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) According to information furnished by the Government of Uttar Pradesh no such complaint has been received by the Education Department.

(c) and (d) The State Government has stated that no such incident has come to their knowledge.

(e) For smooth implementation of the scheme the education department of the State Government has initiated the following steps:

- (i) Distribution of food-grains through fair-price shops;
- (ii) Verification of beneficiaries by the concerned Head-Masters; and
- (iii) Constitution of committees at State, district and village level for better monitoring.

Hindi Salahakar Samiti in Ministry of Human Resource Development

1563. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) when was Hindi Salahakar Samiti re-constituted last in the Ministry of Human Resource Development;
- (b) the number of sittings of the Samiti held during the last three years, year-wise; and
- (c) the efforts made to conduct the meetings, regularly?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Hindi Salahakar Samiti for